

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 19, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 30, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 29, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

## **ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1948**

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Montanez**  
*(Coauthor: Senator Figueroa)*

February 2, 2006

---

An act to add Section 14011.75 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to child health.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1948, as amended, Montanez. Medi-Cal program: Healthy Families Program: Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Services and under which qualified low-income persons receive health care benefits.

Existing law establishes the Healthy Families Program, administered by the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board, to arrange for the provision of health services to an eligible person.

Existing law establishes the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program, administered by the department, to provide early and periodic assessments of the health status of children.

Under existing law, benefits under the Medi-Cal program provided to an individual pursuant to a preliminary determination end, without the necessity for any further review or determination by the department, on or before the last day of the month following the

month in which the preliminary determination was made, unless an application for medical assistance is filed on or before that date. If an application for medical assistance is filed before this deadline, preliminary benefits continue until the regular eligibility determination based on the application has been completed.

Existing law requires the department to develop an electronic application to serve as the application for preenrollment into the Medi-Cal program or the Healthy Families Program and to also serve as an application for the CHDP program.

This bill would require the department to conduct, or contract for the conducting of, a *technological feasibility study review* of ~~the feasibility of using technological requirements for modifying~~ the above electronic application to allow a person applying on behalf of a child *the option* to simultaneously preenroll and apply for enrollment in the Medi-Cal program or the Healthy Families Program *over the Internet* without submitting a followup *paper* application. The bill would require the results of the feasibility study to be provided to the fiscal and health policy committees of the Legislature on or before January 1, 2008.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 14011.75 is added to the Welfare and
- 2 Institutions Code, to read:
- 3 14011.75. (a) The department shall conduct, or contract for
- 4 the conducting of, ~~a study of the feasibility of using~~ *feasibility*
- 5 *study review of technological requirements for modifying* the
- 6 electronic application authorized pursuant to Section 14011.7,
- 7 known as the CHDP-~~gateway~~ *Gateway*, to allow a person
- 8 applying on behalf of a child *the option* to simultaneously
- 9 preenroll and apply for enrollment in the Medi-Cal program *over*
- 10 *the Internet* or the Healthy Families Program without submitting
- 11 a followup *paper* application *pursuant to the criteria set forth in*
- 12 *subdivision (c)*.
- 13 (b) The results of the feasibility study shall be provided to the
- 14 fiscal and health policy committees of the Legislature on or
- 15 before January 1, 2008.

1     (c) (1) *The modifications to the CHDP Gateway that shall be*  
2 *the subject of the feasibility study review of technological*  
3 *requirements under subdivision (a) shall allow an optional*  
4 *electronic application for enrollment to be submitted at the time*  
5 *of applying for preenrollment, so long as written consent to*  
6 *exercise the option is obtained.*

7     (2) *The optional electronic application developed for the*  
8 *purposes of this section shall comply with all of the following:*

9     (A) *Be the simplest permitted by federal law to achieve the*  
10 *purposes of this section, except that nothing in this section shall*  
11 *allow self-certification of income.*

12     (B) *Be adequate to constitute an application for medical*  
13 *assistance.*

14     (C) *Request only the information that is necessary to provide*  
15 *the child with continuing preliminary benefits within the meaning*  
16 *of subdivision (b) of Section 14011.8 until a final eligibility*  
17 *determination is made pursuant to the federal options described*  
18 *in Section 1396r-1a or Section 1397ee(1)(D) of Title 42 of the*  
19 *United States Code and to the extent federal financial*  
20 *participation is allowed.*

21     (d) *The department shall consult with representatives of*  
22 *consumers, counties, and medical providers in developing the*  
23 *policies and procedures for the modifications to the CHDP*  
24 *Gateway that shall be the subject of the feasibility study review*  
25 *of technological requirements under this section.*